

WASHINGTON CRITIC



EVERY EVENING.
BY THE
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—
HAILET KILBOURN, President.

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WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 9, 1899.

AMUSEMENTS.

Acquiesce—Salisbury's Troubadours.
National—Herrmann.
Bismarck—Herrmann.
Kernan's New Washington Theatre.

COMMISSIONER WEBB.

We publish to-day a fair indication of the names attached to the petition which was sent to the Senate last week in favor of Mr. Webb's confirmation as District Commissioner.

The names published give a fair indication of the representative character of the petitioners.

No stronger endorsement or petition in favor of a citizen of Washington ever presented to Congress.

The list includes leading representatives of the business interests, industries, professions, property, taxpayers and the progressive elements of our beautiful Capital City.

Mr. Webb, by his three years' experience as Commissioner, is far better qualified to discharge the duties of the office and promote the interests of the District during another term than any new man, who necessarily must require considerable time to become familiar with the varied duties of the position.

The daily diatribe of insinuations against Mr. Webb's qualification in one of the city papers bears the impress of being instigated by some motive other than for promoting the public interests, and is equally an attack upon the character of the representative citizens who have petitioned the Senate for Mr. Webb's confirmation.

If any nominations are confirmed at this date so close to the inauguration of a new Administration, Mr. Webb's name will undoubtedly be among the number; if no action is taken by the Senate it will be no reflection upon Mr. Webb's character or qualifications, but will be owing entirely to the general policy of not confirming any nominations during the expiring days of the present Administration.

It is to be hoped, however, that the Senate will make an exception in Mr. Webb's case and give Washington another term of his honest, faithful and progressive administration of the local affairs of the National Capital as petitioned for by the representative tax-paying citizens of the District.

THE DESPERATE CHANCES that some persons take are inexplicable to others of ordinary nerve. For instance, Mr. Le Caron, Le Beach or whatever his name may be, is said to indulge in frequent fits of laughter while giving his testimony against Mr. Parrell and telling the secrets of the Fenian Brotherhood generally. His behavior seems much affected, and he apparently looks upon it as a good joke that he is able to betray these unsuspecting people. He even goes so far as to regret that the English Government has put an end to its usefulness by calling him out to testify in behalf of the Times when he might have gone on gathering more food for laughter and more secrets to betray.

It has been very long since some other illustrious spies and informers were accommodating England in the same way; hence his merminant at the prospect of a sudden and novel departure very shortly after he has told the English court all he knows about the Fenians in America.

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FRENCH. If Murat can get in a million-dollar bill on this round about course to France the salary will be no object.

THE POPE, after a careful investigation of Prince Rudolph's case, decided that his death was the result of disease—mental aberration—and he could in consequence be buried in consecrated ground. It is a matter of little moment where Rudolph's body furnishes food for the worms. The ground in which he sleeps cannot be consecrated ground, and the entire system of the Christian religion, including the plan of salvation, is converted into a disgraceful farce when Church or State seeks to make a saint out of material. Bury him decently and in order, but don't wait him into the glory of the Great White Throne on angel wings because he is an Imperial Prince. God is no respecter of persons.

SOMEbody has found out that Field Marshal Halsted is to represent us at Paris. It comes naturally in the eternal things of things and accords fully with the Times' suggestions of ten days ago.

WAR'S Governor Hill's visit to Washington a clear case of the mountain coming to Mahomet?

A LOT of stuff in the State Department which nobody appeared to know the meaning of has been discovered to be a choice collection of Samson's *prole* in fair condition. The time museum men will please take notice.

MR. JOHN C. New arrived in New York yesterday absolutely devoid of information concerning the Cabinet. Where he dropped it nobody knows.

IT LOOKS AS IF WE were not quite such a great marine power after all, since a Portuguese nunboat can board one of our vessels and haul down the American flag.

"HUP NODDERS" is one of the men not connected with connection with Mr. Harrison's Cabinet.

MR. BLAINE'S declination is still without form and void.

CRITICULAR.

St. Louis Journalist (grudgingly): Yes, sir, good St. Louis reporters, when they die, go to Heaven.

Chicago Journalist (sarcastically): Of course, but, before they die, they go to Chicago.

An emotional young man in the Pensio Office, whose girl has left town, drops this one to the editor:

They say man's love is of his life
A thing apart—I know it;
For you are there and I am here—
What better proof to show it?

Bucolic Politeness:
Professional Farmer: I have a cart load of fertilizer out here for you.
Amateur Farmer: Oh! thanks, offily.

"The milk in the cocoanut" is mostly water.

In Art Circles:
Mrs. Newirth and a friend were looking at some statuary, including a couple of Shakespeares.

"That's fine of the Bard of Avon," remarked the gentleman.
"Which one?" inquired the lady, getting a critical look at her torgette. "The whole figure, or the bust?"

Oh, dainty Miss,
Oh, dainty Miss,
Your dog is pug—
And so's your nose!

Oh, dainty Miss,
Oh, dainty Miss,
"La Tosca" show,
Is but a slice—
And so's your head!

Oh, dainty Miss,
Oh, dainty Miss,
Beware! beware!
For men are false—
And so's your hair!

Oh, dainty Miss,
Oh, dainty Miss,
So fair so true
The picture's paint—
Ed—so's you!

This one was handed in by a spring poet:
The atmosphere is frigid,
And the aqueous fluid a rigid
In the regions all around us—but the buds
Are swelling in this section,
And we smile in sweet reflection
On the comfort of our gauzy summer
SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Colonel and Mrs. Lamont gave their first card reception of the season yesterday afternoon.

The Corcoran Cadet Corps have issued invitations for a hop at the National Hotel, Friday, February 10.

Invitations have been issued by Mrs. Flora C. Denison for the fifth annual fancy dress ball to be given at the Hotel Ansonia, Friday, February 10.

Secretary and Mrs. Fairchild gave a dinner yesterday in honor of Mrs. Willoughby of New York and others.

Mrs. Bishop Simpson, the Misses Simpson and Miss E. Carpenter are at the Rochester, N. Y., yesterday, when she will leave for New York.

Mrs. Preston and her three daughters, assisted by their mother, will give a luncheon in honor of Miss Minnie Alexander of New York.

Mrs. Field will give her last reception of the season yesterday, when she will be assisted by her guests, Mrs. Boothby, of New York.

Mrs. Kellogg of Cincinnati yesterday gave one of her delightful and entertaining readings at the residence of Speaker and Mrs. Carlisle.

Mrs. Miller and Miss Corbitt of 1415 Highland Place will not be at home to callers on Monday.

Mrs. Representative James R. Campbell of Connecticut avenue gave an enjoyable dinner yesterday, when she was assisted by her guests, Mrs. Boothby, of New York.

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PENCIL SKETCHES.

There's any city in the United States where society is delightful, where the women are all beautiful and the men all worthy or so.

No matter how lovely he tried, on his life was at stake on the east of the die, and that was the reason he died.

As a matter of fact, he died, but we only know it as a chuck-a-luck here.

The new electric light plant in the Interior Department will cost about \$30,000 when completed.

The centennial of Aaron Burr's arrest will be celebrated on July 7, 1807. Keep it in mind for a celebration.

It isn't the boy who bought the ground. The city boys who bought the ground. But neither did they sell the ground.

On one occasion when Tom Ochiltree returned home from Congress, there was a very little travel upon the railroad, and he was the only passenger on the train.

"Gentlemen, I thank you for this hearty demonstration, thunder," said one of the crowd, "John Dill has just committed suicide in the depot."

THE RUCKER-ARKINS AFFAIR.

What the Judge Says About the Assault.

The affair between Judge Rucker and Senator Blackburn has had its sequel in Colorado. Colonel John Arkins, editor of the *Rocky Mountain News*, Chief of Police Brady and Senator-elect E. O. Wolcott were standing at the bar in Jones' saloon in Denver on Thursday, when Judge Rucker entered, and, walking, without a word up to Arkins, struck him in the face with the palm of his hand.

For a moment Arkins seemed to be struck dumb with amazement, and while he was recovering himself, Judge Rucker backed off and put his hand on his hip, as if he were a cowboy.

At the time of the Rucker-Blackburn affair, which had a dual aspect inasmuch as it involved the Colorado Judge and the Kentucky Senator, Colonel Arkins was in New York city, and his interview published in the New York papers to the effect that Judge Rucker had not fought right off, and that he was a coward.

WHAT JUDGE RUCKER SAYS.

Judge Rucker has made a statement in which he says:

"When I saw the attacks made on me by Arkins in his New York interview, I told my brother Tom, who is a Colorado Democrat, and my wife that I would strike Arkins the first time I met him. Arkins heard of this, and he has carried a pistol and loaded one since I have been in Colorado. I have not searched for him, but I have kept my eyes open, as I was determined to hold him to his word."

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EARLY MORNING NEWS.

He'll Kill the First